

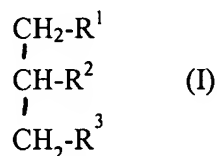
**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-6 (canceled).

7 (previously presented). A method of providing a protective film intermediate a lipid layer of a tear film of an ocular substrate and a contact lens, comprising topically applying to an inner surface of the contact lens a coat of an ophthalmic fluid and subsequently applying the coated inner surface of the contact lens to the ocular substrate, wherein the ophthalmic fluid consists essentially of at least one glyceride of formula (I):



wherein  $\text{R}^1=\text{R}^2=\text{R}^3$  is O-CO-R; or  $\text{R}^1=\text{R}^3$  is O-CO-R when  $\text{R}^2$  is OH; or  $\text{R}^1$  is O-CO-R when  $\text{R}^2=\text{R}^3=\text{OH}$ ; R is a fatty acid residue comprising 16-20 carbon atoms and containing at least one unsaturated bond, and R is the same or different when  $\text{R}^1=\text{R}^3$  or  $\text{R}^1=\text{R}^2=\text{R}^3$ .

8 (currently amended). The method according to ~~Claim~~ claim 7, characterized in that irritation to the ocular substrate associated with the application of the contact lens to the ocular substrate is reduced.

9 (currently amended). The method according to ~~Claim~~ claim 7, characterized in that the method reinforces the lipid layer of the tear film of the ocular substrate upon application of the contact lens to the ocular substrate.

10 (currently amended). The method according to ~~Claim~~ claim 7, characterized in that the fatty acid residue contains at least one unsaturated bond in a *cis*-configuration.

11 (currently amended). The method according to ~~Claim~~ claim 7, characterized in that the ophthalmic fluid contains at least one triglyceride, diglyceride, or monoglyceride derived from linoleic acid, linolenic acid, palmitoleic acid, arachidonic acid, oleic acid or mixtures thereof.

12-15 (canceled).